

State House  
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 576.

This bill reorganizes and consolidates statutes in Article 27 of the Maryland Code relating to crime victims and witnesses.

Senate Bill 456, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on this date, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 576.

Sincerely,  
Parris N. Glendening  
Governor

**House Bill No. 576**

AN ACT concerning

**Crime Victims and Witnesses – Nonsubstantive Reorganization of Laws**

FOR the purpose of reorganizing and restating the laws concerning victims and witnesses of crime, including provisions relating to influencing or intimidating victims and witnesses, pretrial procedures, trial procedures, sentencing procedures, postsentencing procedures, sexual offenses, domestic violence, restitution, criminal injuries compensation, victims and witnesses – services, victims and witnesses – treatment and assistance, and certain other miscellaneous topics; updating obsolete references; establishing cross-references in certain articles of the Code in accordance with the reorganization in this Act; making certain stylistic changes; providing for the termination of certain provisions of this Act; providing that there is no intent by this Act or substantively change, revive, or otherwise affect any law that is the subject of this Act or any other law in effect on or prior to the effective date of this Act; requiring the publishers of the Annotated Code and the Department of Legislative Reference to propose and make certain corrections and revisions to the Code; providing that drafter's notes and catchlines contained in this Act are not law; and generally relating to laws concerning victims and witnesses of crime.

BY transferring

Article 10 – Legal Officials  
Section 37 and 40A, respectively  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1994 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

to be

Article 27 – Crimes and Punishments  
Section 766 and 784, respectively